

Benjamin J. Otto (ISB No. 8292)
710 N 6th Street
Boise, ID 83701
Ph: (208) 345-6933 x 112
botto@idahoconservation.org

Attorney for the Idaho Conservation League

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE)	CASE NO. AVU-E-21-01
APPLICATION OF AVISTA)	CASE NO: AVU-G-21-01
CORPORATION FOR THE)	
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS)	
RATES AND CHARGES FOR)	
ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS)	IDAHO CONSERVATION LEAGUE
CUSTOMERS IN THE STATE OF)	
IDAHO)	STATEMENT OF POSITION

The Idaho Conservation League submits the following Statement of pursuant to IDAPA Rule 31.01.01.255. The Commission granted ICL’s intervenor status in Order No. 34940. As a party, ICL focused on Avista’s proposed spending at the Colstrip coal-plant. The utility’s Integrated Resource Plan indicates that exiting Colstrip by 2022 is the economic choice for Idaho, although due to “contractual complexities” Avista plans to exit by 2025.¹ One of these “complexities” is for the six plant-owners, each with differing assumed lifespans, to agree on spending that could prolong the life or is necessary maintenance. Through negotiations, ICL achieved a settlement term that reduces ratebase by over \$2 million and reduces annual rates by \$36,000 by unnecessary costs at Colstrip.² This settlement term is in the public interest because it mitigates ratepayer costs as Avista transitions to cleaner energy options allowing the utility to “maintain such service, instruments, equipment and facilities as shall promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of . . . the public”. *Idaho Code § 61-302*. ICL recommends the Commission approve the Settlement.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of July 2021.

/s/ Benjamin Otto
Idaho Conservation League

¹ Avista 2021 IRP Preferred Resource Strategy Update at page 4, (filed 4/30/2021). Available at: file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/Avista%20Electric%202021%20IRP%20PRS%20Update%20(1).pdf

² See Andrews *Testimony in Support of Stipulation* at page 11, foot note 4.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 19th day of July, 2021, I served the foregoing STATEMENT OF POSITION to the following:

/s/ Benjamin Otto

Electronic Mail only:

Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Jan Noriyuki
Commission Secretary
secretary@puc.idaho.gov
jan.noriyuki@puc.idaho.gov

John Hammond
Deputy Attorney General
john.hammond@puc.idaho.gov

Avista Utilities

David J. Meyer, Esq.
Patrick D. Erhbar
david.meyer@avistacorp.com
pat.ehrbar@avistacorp.com
avistadockets@avistacorp.com

Walmart

Vicki M. Bladwin
Norman M. Semanko
Parsons Behle & Latimer
vbaldwin@parsonsbehle.com
nsemanko@parsonsbehle.com

Steve W. Chriss
Walmart, Inc
stephen.chriss@walmart.com

Idaho Forest Group

Ronald L. Williams
Williams Bradbury PC
ron@williamsbradbury.com

Larry A. Crowley
Energy Strategies Institute
crowleyla@aol.com

Clearwater Paper

Peter J Richardson
Richardson Adams Pllc
peter@richardonadams.com

Dr. Don Reading
dreading@mindspring.com

carol.haugen@clearwaterpaper.com
terry.borden@clearwaterpaper.com
malisa.maynard@clearwaterpaper.com

CAPAI

Brad Purdy, Attorney at Law
bmpurdy@hotmail.com